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A GOOD BEGINNING

Folks, you are a friendly family, a generous group. That appeal to you for money in the September Journal to aid our work brings in something every day, but the mail man has not yet been overloaded and he assures me that he could carry twice as much mail to my office without becoming round shouldered. So he makes it all right for you, doesn't he?

So many of you are sending 50c and \$1 instead of the 25c requested. But the editor does not want any of you to feel that you must give more than the suggested contribution. Certainly he would rather have 1,000 of you give a quarter each than 250 of you give a dollar each. The money helps, but the interest and support from many contributors helps also. It is a pleasure to read your comments and suggestions. Some of the improvements in this Journal are the result of these kindly letters.

So send not only a quarter or as much more money as you desire, but send a little piece of yourself too.

HELPING OUR PRESIDENT

Anyone who doubts that the Music Supervisors' National Conference is a cooperative institution needs only learn of the number of letters that go out from our officers to know that we try hard enough to make it cooperative. The president is now in the midst of program details. He writes to the officers and Board of Directors and to the chairmen and members of the advisory committees in various states, and to various other supervisors whose advice he needs in formulating a vital program. The replies that come in are his guides. Are you doing your part in sustaining him and making his work not only simpler but possible? When a letter comes from him or any other officer, answer it the same day. Your immediate reaction is pretty nearly as good as your later detailed one and there is a very good chance that the letter which is put aside for mature consideration will not be answered until too late. If you are badly pressed for time, don't hesitate to scribble a rejoinder on the letter of inquiry instead of taking time for a complete epistle on your own stationery. President Beattie, in a private letter, writes, "I am beginning to understand why some of our former presidents have made decisions on their own responsibility. Probably they were forced to!"

MODERNIZING OLD MUSIC MOVEMENTS

Are there any possibilities of your using the old fashioned singing school or the old time music conventions? Are there not grown up people in your district who would enjoy the opportunity of learning to sing by note? Are there not small towns or rural districts or wards in your city which would be benefited by coming together for a concert or competition? Every now and then it is worth while to consider the possibilities of institutions that have succeeded in the past but have been outgrown. Most of the good books of today are old ideas worked over anew.

RAILROAD RATES TO ST. JO

President Beattie is struggling with the question of railroad rates. He is informed that nothing can be done until after December 31st. Whether rates are granted will depend upon the number of persons who will register in advance. In other words, if our advance enrollment is large enough to show that a large number will attend from various parts of the country the rates will probably be granted. Every effort will be made to secure rates, but members themselves will be the determining factors. Those sending in their dues at once will help to insure rates.

MATERIAL FOR GLEE CLUBS

There have been a few good books published for boys' and for girls' glee clubs, but most of the material that is being used throughout the country is in single octavo publications. Would you like to help your fellow supervisors get acquainted with the material you have found most successful. Will you therefore, every one of you who have ever had a glee club, send in a list of the twelve numbers which have seemed to you most valuable and most successful? Make it 12 each for boys, for girls, and for boys and girls together, if you are that generous; if not, 12 altogether. Be sure to specify which you are sending. Just give a word of comment also about range, character of the music, difficulty, etc. and don't forget to tell the publisher. The results will be published in the Journal and everyone of us can thus greatly enlarge his repertoire. T. L. Gibson, State Supervisor of Music for Maryland, has just issued a helpful beginning in his lists of music for special occasions. Write him at Baltimore.

THE PHILADELPHIA PROCEEDINGS

Yes, it is true! The Book of Proceedings of the Philadelphia meeting is in the mail. After you have given Uncle Sam sufficient time and your book does not come to you, write to Karl W. Gehrkins at Oberlin and tell him all about yourself—how you have paid your dues and how you have stayed at just the address which you gave and how the mail man has refused to give you a copy of this book. If, however, you have changed your address from the one which you gave at Philadelphia, write at once to the postmaster at your former address and tell him to forward your book.

How you will revel in this volume when it comes to you! As is to be expected with a progressive organization, this is probably the best book that we have published up to this time. It is an encyclopedia of up-to-date information. If you are in touch with everything that is discussed in this volume you may feel that you are wide-awake and forward-looking. If you are not, it is time you were studying and experimenting with some of these new ideas.

If there is a legitimate reason why this book should not come to you without further effort on your part, sit down immediately and send \$2 to our treasurer. Moreover, if your public library is not one of our subscribers use your influence to have the librarian purchase not only this volume, but several of the back numbers. Our treasurer will make you a special price on a number of the series.

REQUEST FOR BACK NUMBERS

Has anybody a copy of volume 3, No. 3, January, 1916, or of volume 6, No. 4, March, 1920? Two libraries want these numbers for their files and the editor's supply is exhausted. If you are not keeping a complete file and have these numbers lying around, will you not send them in?

100% ENROLLMENT

We want to publish in our next issue a list of towns which have all the members of their school music teaching groups enrolled in our National Conference. We shall publish the name of the town, the name of the supervisor and the number of members enrolled. If you are the entire staff you can easily make a perfect record. If you have a dozen full or part time assistants, you will need to do some soliciting. Send all checks and information to our treasurer, Karl W. Gehrkins (dues for active members are \$3.00 for new, \$2.00 for renewal). He will supply the editor with the latest revision of 100% enrollments on Dec. 20.

DUES

Don't delay sending your money to our treasurer, Karl W. Gehrken, Oberlin, Ohio. Send \$3 if you are just newly joining the Association, or if you allowed your membership to lapse last year. Send \$2 if you paid your year's membership. If you did not pay the dues for the Philadelphia meeting and you are desirous of receiving that Book of Proceedings, tell the treasurer and he will credit you with the payment of 1919-20. If you want to be credited for the St. Joseph meeting and wish the Book covering that conference make mention of that fact.

IMPRESSIONS OF ST. JOSEPH

By Our President, JOHN W. BEATTIE.

I have just spent two days in St. Joseph, Missouri, which is to be the next meeting place for the Music Supervisors' National Conference. Though I had a slight acquaintance with the city, having visited it before, I was quite unprepared for the reception which was accorded me as an official representative of the conference. Everybody in the city, from the Superintendent of Schools down to the smallest child in the system is enthusiastically backing Miss Sanford, local supervisor, in her efforts to make St. Joseph's part in the conference a great success.

I covered as much ground as possible during my two days' stay, visited twelve grade schools and two high schools, hearing work in all of them, lunched with a large organization of business men, representing the Commerce Club, sat in conference with the leading spirits in the Festival Association, interviewed members of the Board of Education, was interviewed by a representative of the local press, and discussed matters of state interest with faculty members from two of the state teachers' colleges. I also spent some time going over the matter of hotel accommodations, meeting places for sectional gatherings, concert halls, banquet rooms, and other details which enter so largely into the success of our meetings.

It is my opinion that in choosing St. Joseph for the 1921 conference, we made a very happy selection. The city is not only well located but from the standpoint of accommodations and the work that the schools have to offer is almost ideally equipped. I shall enumerate some of the advantages.

Railroads. St. Joseph is on six main lines which enter from all directions. There is also one interurban line. Our members will be able to get through train service from any railroad center and while special rates are not yet definitely promised, we shall probably have them, PROVIDED OUR ADVANCE ENROLLMENT IS LARGE ENOUGH.

Hotels. The hotels are not only adequate but the rates are the most reasonable that have been offered us for several years. On another page a list of the hotels is given. While more of our members will prefer to room at the Robidoux, which will be our headquarters, the other hotels listed are all within two blocks of the Robidoux. While my observations were necessarily superficial, I believe the St. Joseph Commerce Club is justified in recommending any of the hotels listed. Members will do well to make their reservations at once. It is also suggested that if two people are willing to share a room, the rates are even lower than those quoted.

Several of the hotels serve excellent table and d'hote lunches and dinners at surprisingly low prices. One of the large department stores near headquarters also serves lunches and there are a number of restaurants and cafeterias near all the hotels.

I should say that expenses for room and meals at St. Joseph will be at least 50 per cent cheaper than they were at Philadelphia.

Registration Facilities. Our registration office will be on the ground floor of the Robidoux, just inside the entrance. The Commerce Club will provide

clerical assistants at no expense to us. A list of arrivals will be published daily in all the papers.

Convention Hall. Our general sessions will be held in the Ball Room of the Robidoux, which is on the second floor. The room seats 600 and if it should prove too small, a theatre next door to the hotel will be used. The Ball Room will be used for our chorus rehearsals and the formal banquet. The large concerts will be given in the Coliseum, a splendid equipped hall seating about 7,000. The St. Joseph people say that it will be packed to the doors.

Sectional Meeting Places. Within two or three blocks of the Robidoux are splendid halls for all our smaller meetings. Most of them have stages and facilities for demonstrations of all kinds. The distances are so short that it will be easily possible for one to visit parts of several sectional meetings if that seems desirable.

Exhibit Space. On three sides of the hotel lobby is a mezzanine floor with abundant facilities for the informal "small group" conferences which always prove so attractive to some. Immediately off this mezzanine floor, are a number of large rooms which will be reserved for the use of our friends, the publishers and dealers in all sorts of musical merchandise. So it will be possible for members to visit in comfort or look at exhibits during the moments of rest which will be provided.

Concerts. The St. Joseph Festival Association will offer us as fine a list of attractions as could be wished for. Grand opera and symphony concerts are not to be expected in a city the size of St. Joseph. But in providing the concerts which are listed on another page, it would seem as though the city has gone to unlooked for lengths to prove that they are sincerely glad that we are coming and want to help make the week pleasant for us. Having heard the St. Olaf Choir, I am frank to state my belief that the average supervisor who hears it will receive quite as much inspiration and more genuine help from the standpoint of her own work, than she could from a single hearing of any symphony or opera.

The probable list of concert attractions is as follows:

Monday evening—Arthur Shattuck; St. Olaf Choir.

Tuesday evening—Children's Chorus with Margaret Romaine.

Thursday evening—Supervisors' Concert.

Friday afternoon—Grade School Orchestras; Boys' Chorus; Folk Dances.

Friday evening—Oscar Seagle; Donald MacBeath.

The St. Olaf Choir took Chicago by storm. It was hailed as "the best," "the most unique," "the most delightful" choir ever heard in Chicago. Herman Devries, the well known critic wrote of the organization:

"The St. Olaf choir is rare in power. It is a group of young people, twenty male and thirty female singers, all of them letter-perfect, pitch-perfect, tone-perfect, text-perfect in the most difficult classic choral music, singing absolutely from memory and without accompaniment, even without the opening assurance of the diapason or tuning-fork!

These fifty young persons began last evening's concert at Orchestra Hall with a superb reading of Bach's "Blessing, Glory and Wisdom," from the Passion Music according to St. John, following with a "Praise to the Lord," first published in 1668 by Peter Schren, and the Luther Chorale.

"Their director, F. Mellus Christransen, gets effects unlike those produced by any like organizations heard in these parts.

"Their pianissimo is of wonderful tenuity, fine-spun as silk, yet never lacking in musical quality. Their dynamics are their own, and the ensemble effects are quite flawless."

The Work in the Schools. The work under Miss Sanford's direction will be an inspiration to all of us. Every phase of public school music work is given some attention in the St. Joseph system and the staff of music teachers is large

enough to make possible more frequent supervision than obtains in many cities. The grade work is especially satisfactory. The children sing with a light flexible voice quality; their reading is considerably better than the average; their enunciation is clear and distinct; best of all, they evidently enjoy music and are happy to sing for others.

I had little opportunity to visit high school work but from a perusal of the time schedule I am convinced that there will be plenty of high school work for those who are most interested in that field.

There are splendid bands and orchestras in both grade and high schools, some of which I heard.

All together, the situation in St. Joseph at present augurs well for a great meeting. We shall have opportunities at St. Joseph for the kind of meeting which is only possible in a city of medium size. We should have not less than a thousand attending members.

ST. JOSEPH HOTEL CAPACITY AND RATES

	<i>No. available</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Rates</i>
Robidoux Hotel—			
Rooms with bath	175	500	\$3.00 and up
Rooms without bath	75		2.00 and up
St. Francis Hotel—			
Rooms with bath	75	250	2.50 and up
Rooms without bath	40		1.50 and up
Metropole Hotel—			
Rooms with bath	25	150	2.00 and up
Rooms without bath	60		1.25 and up
Woodland Hotel—			
Rooms with bath	14	150	2.00 and up
Rooms without bath	64		1.25 and up
St. Charles Hotel—			
Rooms with bath	20	125	2.00 and up
Rooms without bath	65		1.25 and up

Write directly to the hotel for reservations, *not* to Miss Sanford.

A NEW PROGRAM FEATURE

The Music Supervisors' National Conference wants an orchestra this year and it will *have* an orchestra of its own if every member will read this article and *act*. The Supervisors' Orchestra is fortunate at the start in having Will Earhart, who has been called the Dean of School Orchestra directors in this country, to serve as its Director. Under his baton we can expect splendid things from the organization. With such a conductor, there is only one problem for the rest of us—to build up a personnel worthy of his ability.

Do you play an orchestral instrument? Then send us your name, address and instrument at once. Do you know some other Supervisor who does? Then send us the same information about him. Remember, even though you are not an instrumentalist, you know some one who is. All information should be sent at once to the assistant director, Russell V. Morgan, 1871 E. 81st St., Cleveland, Ohio.

This will have to be to some extent a volunteer organization. Don't hesitate to send your own name.

We especially solicit the co-operation of all members in securing oboe, bassoon, horn, viola, cello and bass players. If you play one of these be sure to tell us; if you know a fellow member who does, send his name, address and instrument as soon as you read this. We need him and he may be hesitant about volunteering.

The Supervisors' Orchestra will be one of the big features at the St. Joseph meeting in April—a splendid expression of the increasing interest throughout the

country in orchestral music. We want to make this a permanent part of the Annual program. Be a charter member!

A few opinions regarding the supervisors orchestra.

"For many years have I thought about the feasibility of a Conference orchestra in connection with the concert of the supervisors, and I think that your plan is an excellent-one."—Eugene M. Hahnel, supervisor of orchestras, St. Louis, Mo.

"I think the idea of an orchestra among the supervisors is as worth while as that of the chorus, which has been so successful for several years. And a goodly number of supervisors, who I suspect are, like myself, more proficient on instruments than they are vocally, should answer the call."—Chas. Ernest Parke, supervisor of music, Columbus, Neb.

"I am more than willing to do all I can to help the move along. You can count on me for whatever instrument you need most."—J. E. Maddy, supervisor of music, Richmond, Ind.

"I think the plan for a supervisors' orchestra entirely feasible and an much interested in the idea."—Geraldine Richmond, grade school music instructor, Henry, Ill.

"I am much interested in the idea and will do my part."—Carl Borgwald, Central High School, Duluth, Minn.

"It seems to me that your plan for an orchestra for the St. Joseph Conference is a mighty good one. I shall be very glad to do anything within my power to help the thing along."—Harold P. Wheeler, Bandmaster, State Agricultural College, Manhattan, Kansas.

"The scheme is a good one. I shall be glad to help in any way I can."—Russell V. Morgan, East Technical High School, Cleveland, Ohio.

"I believe the proposed supervisors' orchestra for the St. Joseph Meeting is feasible and it will be a pleasure for me to be of any assistance."—V. E. Dillard, supervisor of music, Washington, Ind.

"I am enthusiastically in favor of attempting the orchestra idea."—Osbourne McConathy, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.

"I am enthusiastic about the supervisors' orchestra and will surely be there."—F. A. Tubbs, supervisor of music, Bryan, Ohio.

"A supervisors orchestra at the National Conference strikes me as being just the thing; I feel certain that it can be done and shall be glad to do what I can to help the cause along."—Marguerite Grace, assistant supervisor of music, St. Louis, Mo.

ORCHESTRA LIST

A preliminary survey of possibilities. We want corrections and additions!

Allison, Grant Helen, Marshall, Ill.....	Violin
Amos, George, Grand Rapids, Mich.....	Violin or Clarinet
Baker, Berger C., Des Moines, Iowa.....	Violin or Cornet
Bason, Nilo, Fargo, North Dakota.....	Percussions
Beery, Leon F., La Crosse, Wis.....	Tympani
Borgwald, Carl, Duluth, Minn.....	Violin or Organ
Bottomley, J., Stratford, Canada	
Boyle, Imogene, Warrensburg, Mo.....	Violin
Bright, Harold, Marshall, Ill.	
Brenklow, Reginald	Trumpet
Brown, Robert H., Kansas City, Mo.....	Violin or Cornet
Carey, Bruce A., Hamilton, Canada.....	String Bass
Cleland, D. H., St. Louis, Mo.	
Clute, S. A., Rochester, N. Y.....	Trumpet
Cotton, Mrs. Homer E., Evanston, Ill.....	Violin